

BIRD MIGRATION



Migration is when birds fly to warmer countries to escape cold winters.

Each autumn birds tend to practise flying together in flocks – and this is a sign that Winter is on its way. These birds then fly south to warmer countries so that they can breed and feed as during the winter, food can become hard to find in the cold winters.

How do they keep going?

They sometimes stop along the way, but many stock up on food before they leave and fly in formation, making the journey in one very long flight.

Do all birds migrate?

No. Some birds stay all winter and others leave, the robin, for example – does both. The male bird stays to mind the nest, but the female migrates south and returns in the spring to mate and lay eggs in the nest that her mate has carefully kept safe from other male robins.

How do they know the way?

Many people think that they use the earth's magnetic field as a compass, but they could also use a mixture of sight and smell.

Fill in the missing words

Birds _____ in the Autumn and _____ south for the winter.

They go to _____ countries because they are not so much _____ in the winter.

They often fly all the way there without making a _____.

Not all birds migrate. The male _____ stays at home to take care of the nest.

Some people think that the birds use magnetism as a _____ to find the way.